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## IRON AND STEEL PLANTS EXCEED QUOTAS; REPORT IMPROVED PRODUCTION

Iron and steel plants long in operation report quotas fulfilled or exceeded, while plants formerly closed or operating under difficulties have recovered their stability and increased production. The Tsinan plant has begun successful steel-refining operations.

SHAN-JUNG IRONWORKS IMPROVES -- Tsingtao Jih-pao, 13 Oct 50

Tsingtao -- The privately operated Shan-jung Ironworks is now remelting scrap iron and cutting from its scrap pile, to supply other foundries. Shanjung began operations in February 1950. Following a period of great difficulties and general mismanagement, monthly production of iron finally began to rise: May, 30 tons; June, 40 tons, July, 88 tons; August, 87 tons. The original average monthly wage of 200 catties of corm per person has been changed to 240 cattles of millet. From 1 February to the end of April 1950, Shan-jung lost a total of 70 million yuan. After July, the situation improved and the average profit has been over 22 million yuan per month.

TIENTSIN STEEL PLANT RAISES OUTPUT -- Tientsin Jih-pao, 18 Oct 50

By improving the process for removing slag, and by enlarging and relocating the mouth of the furnace, workers at the electric furnace of the Tientsin Steel Plant have raised the output of their shop by 20 percent.

FU-SHUN STEEL MILL PUSHES PRODUCTION -- Mukden, Tung-pei Jin-pao, 23 Oct 50

Fu-shun -- As of 19 October, the refinery at the Fu-shun Steel Mill had exceeded its quota by 16.8 percent; the No 5 Furnace led in the production, with an excess of 24.8 percent. The No 2 Furnace at the steel ingot shop operated at 100-percent efficiency and the other furnaces averaged over 99 percent. The rolling mill exceeded its quota by 32.2 percent and the quality of the product averaged 99.7 percent of the standard. The forge was outstanding, with an excess of 69.9 percent in finished products and 20.09 percent in semifinished.

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The safety record has also been improved at the plant. The workers' output at the forge was rated at 97 percent while the other shops maintained an average of 93-95 percent.

TSINAN PLANT SUCCESSFULLY REFINES STEEL -- Tsinan, Ta-chung Jih-pao, 29 Oct 50

The Tsinan Bureau of Industry has succeeded in its attempts to refine steel, at the bureau's Plant No 2. Formerly, the necessity of purchasing steel from other places had kept production costs high at Plants 1, 2, and 4 of the bureau, and sometimes had impeded production. In March 1950, the bureau purchased a one-ton blast furnace; but technical limitations and the lack of working space made it impossible to operate the furnace at that time.

In August, engineers and technicians were called in from Shanghai to handle the problem. Initial experiments, on 26 October, yielded a product which met the qualifications completely in the specified time. The plants are now collecting scrap steel, enlarging plant space, and preparing for large-scale refining, to supply their own needs and those of other plants as well.

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